

COMMITTEE MINUTES for GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

Date: April 02, 2009

Place: Room 19

Convened: 4/2/2009 8:15 AM
Recessed:

Reconvened:

Adjourned: 4/2/2009 9:00 AM

Present: Senators Olive-CH, Courtney-VC, Soddors
Representatives Lensing-CH, Baudler, Berry, Olson, S., Sorenson, Swaim, Whitead

Absent: None

Excused: Senators Ward-RM, Wieck
Representatives Ford-VC, Watts-RM

Representative Lensing called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Attendance was taken as the members arrived. Minutes of the previous meeting were not approved because a quorum was needed. Minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

Representative Lensing introduced John McCalley, Director, Department of Elder Affairs. Mr. McCalley provided the 2009 Final Report of The Governor's Task Force on Dependent Adults With Mental Retardation.

Mr. McCalley presented an overview of the report. The report is extensive and below are a few of its recommendations:

1. Action steps intended to improve dependent adult protection and detection of mistreatment of vulnerable adults.
2. Recommendations to establish or improve systems of coordination between government entities and proposed changes to the way federal agencies do business that will help vulnerable Iowans.
3. Additional recommendations regarding integrating benefit planning, counseling and Work Incentive Planning and Assistance (WIPA), as well as work incentives into entitlement programs that allow persons with disabilities to build wealth and become self-sufficient.
4. Implement a public awareness campaign to increase public awareness of issues regarding "vulnerable citizens" by applying for a VISTA volunteer to assist in conducting community forums to educate people at the local level and gather recommendations.

Mr. McCalley stated that the Task Force does not believe that its work is completed simply by issuing this report by its due date, April 1, 2009, and that it proposes that its work continue through 2009 to consider issues uncovered by the civil and criminal investigation of Henry's Turkey Service.

Mr. McCalley opened the floor for questions. Discussion followed.

Representative Lensing stated that the committee will meet again next week to look at the draft of proposed legislation in response to this report, and that the committee meet during the interim to continue to be updated on the progress of the investigation.

Representative Baudler moved to arise and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Representative Vicki S. Lensing

Patricia Van Cleave, Committee Secretary